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Department of State POL 13-10 US

TELEGRAM

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POL 17-7455R-25

POL 17-6 45-455R

DISTRIBUTION:

ACTION: Amembassy MOSCOW

STATE:

SUBJECT: Dept. Press Briefing, Jan 12/71

Following are excerpts:

QUOTE Q. Has the State Dept. in consultation with

the Justice Dept., reached any conclusion about possible action against the Jewish Defense League?

A. No: no conclusion has been reached yet. The whole matter--or, I should say, the whole problem of further steps to protect Soviet personnel and their dependents--continues.

Q. Any other instances of harassment of Americans in the Soviet Union?

It

A. No. It would appear we--that is, Embassy personnel--official Americans in Moscow--have not been subjected to any harassing treatment since, I believe, Saturday. It would appear that these incidents are tapering off.

Q. Is somebody asking for compensation? By 'somebody' I mean the US Govt. or the three wire services for what

DRAFTED BY:

EUR/P:MWJerabek:pt

DRAFTING DATE:

1/12/71

TEL. EXT.:

21126

APPROVED BY:

EUR - Mr. Olsen

CLEARANCES:

SOV - Mr. Okun

S/PRS - Mr. King (subs)

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happened in Moscow?

A. I just don't know the answer to that question-- whether it will be taken up with them or not. We'll just have to wait and see.

Q. Did that harassment include phone calls, when you said none since Saturday?

A. Yes. I believe there's been a tapering off there as well as a--we've had no additional delegations coming in presenting letters.

Q. Can you offer any clarification on the situation surrounding Amb. Dobrynin and his sudden trip home that's being speculated as a quick trip and his final trip? Do you have any information as to his future plans?

A. We were informed Friday that he would be going home. We were not informed that he would not return, and we have no reason to believe he will not return.

Q. Was it characterized as a trip home for consultation

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when we were ~~informed~~ informed?

A. I believe so, yes.

Q. Are we usually informed when he goes home for consultation?

A. Oh, it's a courtesy. Customarily we are, yes.

Q. Did you have the impression that ~~it~~ it was a sudden trip?

A. We were informed Friday, and he left Sunday. It's not unusual, no.

Q. Was there any indication that he's going home for consultation on any specific subject, such as the by-play over harassment?

A. No indication to us that that might be the purpose.

Q. Mrs. Dobrynin is still here, is that correct?

A. You better ask the Embassy.

Q. Any plans to have Mr. Beam come home for con-

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EGESH sultation?

A: None that I'm aware of; no.

UNQUOTE

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